

In the Claims:

1-2. (Canceled)

3. (Original) The system board of claim 13, wherein said ports are substantially functionally identical.

4. (Original) The system board of claim 3, wherein said ports are USB ports.

5-7. (Canceled)

8. (Original) A host device comprising the system board of claim 13.

9. (Original) The host device of claim 8, wherein the host device is a computer.

10. (Original) The host device of claim 8, wherein the host device is one of the group consisting of a network router, a TV set top box and a mobile device.

11-12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) A system board comprising:

(a) a connector that includes:

(i) a first port situated at an exterior edge of the system board and facing outward from said exterior edge, and

(((b)))ii) a second port, facing inward to an interior of the system board; and

(b) a peripheral device operationally connected to said inward-facing port.

14-15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) The system board of claim [[15]]20, wherein said first and second directions are opposite directions.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) The system board of claim [[7]]13, wherein said peripheral device is electrically connected to the system board only via said inward-facing port.

19. (New) A system board comprising a connector, the connector including:

- (a) a first port situated at an exterior edge of the system board and facing outward from said exterior edge; and
- (b) a second port, facing inward to an interior of the system board in order to accommodate a peripheral device that is electrically connected to the system board only via said second port.

20. (New) A system board comprising a connector, the connector including:

- (a) a first port situated at an exterior edge of the system board and facing outward from said exterior edge; and
 - (b) a second port, facing inward to an interior of the system board;
- wherein said first and second ports face in respective first and second directions that are parallel to the system board.

21. (New) A system board comprising a connector, the connector including:

- (a) a first port situated at an exterior edge of the system board and facing outward from said exterior edge; and
- (b) a second port, facing inward to an interior of the system board; and
- (c) a mechanism, separate from said ports, whereby said connector is attached to the system board.

22. (New) A system board comprising a connector, the connector including:

- (a) a first recess, for facilitating a mechanical and electrical connection of said connector to a first peripheral device, said first recess being situated at an exterior edge of the system board and facing outward from said exterior edge; and
- (b) a second recess, for facilitating a mechanical and electrical connection of said connector to a second peripheral device, said second recess facing inward to an interior of the system board.